

PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)  
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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/060,905
				Filing Date	January 29, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Stephen Ritland
				Art Unit	3732
				Examiner Name	C. E. O'Connor
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	101896-246 (DEP-5176)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
CEW		**US Appl. 10/165,991	6-10-2002 (filing date)	ROBERT E. SIMONSON	** (this application is a reissue of U.S. Patent No. 6,159,179, previously submitted; copy of reissue application is not enclosed)
CEW		**US Appl. 10/899,707	7-26-2004 (filing date)	ROBERT E. SIMONSON	** (this application is a divisional of U.S. Publ. No. 2003/0083689, previously submitted; copy of divisional application is not enclosed)
CEW		US 2003/0083688	05-01-2003	ROBERT E. SIMONSON	
CEW		US 2003/0187431	10-02-2003	ROBERT E. SIMONSON	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>2</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

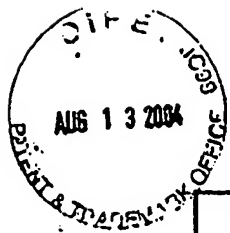
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T <sup>2</sup>
CEW		Sofamor Danek, "MED MicroEndoscopic Discectomy System" (1997)			

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<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	Cay E O'Connor	Date Considered	9/28/04
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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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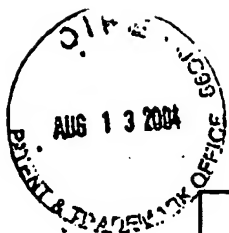
Application Number	10/060,905 - Conf. # 9462
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First Named Inventor	Stephen Ritland
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Attorney Docket Number	101896-246 (DEP-5176)

Sheet	1	of	3
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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
CEO	AA	US-2002/0143235	10-03-2002	JAMES J. PAGLIUCA	
	AB	US-2002/0082695	06-27-2002	CARSTEN NEUMANN	
	AC	US-2003/0083689	05-01-2003	ROBERT E. SIMONSON	
	AD	US-2002/0077632	06-20-2002	PAUL M. TSOU	
	AE	US-2002/0058948	05-16-2002	YVAN ARLETTAZ	
	AF	US-2002/0049368	04-25-2002	STEPHEN RITLAND	
	AG	US-2001/0027320	10-04-2001	RICK SASSO	
	AH	US-2002/0022764	02-21-2002	MAURICE M. SMITH	
	AI	US-2002/0016592	02-07-2002	CHARLES L. BRANCH	
	AJ	US-2001/0012942	08-09-2001	BRADLEY T. ESTES	
	AK	US-2002/0011135	01-31-2002	WAYNE HALL	
	AL	US-2004/0106997	06-03-2004	ROBERT E. LIEBERSON	
	AM	US-569,839	10-20-1896	J. T. R. ROELOFFS	
	AN	US-3,470,872	10-07-1969	H. R. GRIESHABER	
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	AP	US-4,440,168	04-03-1984	MARK G. WARREN	
	AQ	US-4,545,374	10-08-1985	ROBERT E. JACOBSON	
	AR	US-4,573,448	03-04-1986	PARVIZ KAMBIN	
	AS	US-4,620,460	11-04-1986	FRANK GONZALES, JR.	
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	AY	US-4,882,958	11-28-1989	RICHARD L. MCNEELY	
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	BD	US-5,135,525	08-04-1992	JUERGEN BISCOPING	
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	BI	US-5,279,567	01-18-1994	PASQUALE CIAGLIA	
	BJ	US-5,292,309	03-08-1994	ROBERT A. VAN TASSEL	
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	BM	US-5,431,639	07-11-1995	WILLIAM J. SHAW	
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	BP	US-5,472,426	12-05-1995	ALFRED O. BONATI	

Examiner Signature	Cary E O Connor	Date Considered	9/28/04
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# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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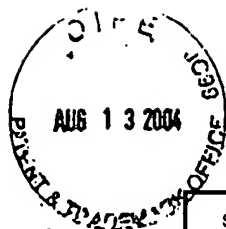
## Complete if Known

Application Number	10/060,905 - Conf. # 9462
Filing Date	January 29, 2002
First Named Inventor	Stephen Ritland
Art Unit	3732
Examiner Name	Cary E. O'Connor
Attorney Docket Number	101896-246 (DEP-5176)

Sheet 2 of 3

CW	BQ	US-5,489,274	02-06-1996	MICHAEL S.H. CHU	
	BR	US-5,611,778	03-18-1997	THIERRY BRINON	
	BS	US-5,687,739	11-18-1997	WILLIAM E. MCPHERSON	
	BT	US-5,746,720	05-05-1998	ALBERT E. STOUDE, JR	
	BU	US-5,792,044	08-11-1998	KEVIN T. FOLEY	
	BV	US-5,816,257	10-06-1998	ALBERT K. CHIN	
	BW	US-5,851,207	12-22-1998	MORRIS DANIEL CESARONE	
	BX	US-5,882,344	03-16-1999	ALBERT E. STOUDE, JR.	
	BY	US-5,899,901	05-04-1999	JEFFREY KEITH MIDDLETON	
	BZ	US-5,902,231	05-11-1999	KEVIN THOMAS FOLEY	
	CA	US-5,954,635	09-21-1999	KEVIN THOMAS FOLEY	
	CB	US-5,954,671	09-21-1999	MICHAEL J. O'NEILL	
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	CD	US-5,971,920	10-26-1999	GUNTHER PETER NAGEL	
	CE	US-5,976,146	11-02-1999	AKIHISA OGAWA	
	CF	US-5,996,447	12-07-1999	DAVID BAYOUTH	
	CG	US-6,010,520	01-04-2000	C. PHILLIP PATTISON	
	CH	US-6,081,741	06-27-2000	J. MARCUS HOLLIS	
	CI	US-6,120,434	09-19-2000	SHUICHI KIMURA	
	CJ	US-6,152,871	11-28-2000	KEVIN T. FOLEY	
	CK	US-6,156,006	12-05-2000	IVO BROSENS	
	CL	US-6,159,179	12-12-2000	ROBERT E. SIMONSON	
	CM	US-6,162,170	12-19-2000	KEVIN THOMAS FOLEY	
	CN	US-6,162,236	12-19-2000	TOSHIHIKO OSADA	
	CO	US-6,176,823	01-23-2001	KEVIN T. FOLEY	
	CP	US-6,197,002	03-06-2001	FRANCIS PETERSON	
	CQ	US-6,206,822	03-27-2001	KEVIN T. FOLEY	
	CR	US-6,214,004	04-10-2001	WESLEY L. COKER	
	CS	US-6,217,509	04-17-2001	KEVIN T. FOLEY	
	CT	US-6,224,597	05-01-2001	WESLEY L. COKER	
	CU	US-6,224,608	05-01-2001	MICHAEL CICCOLELLA	
	CV	US-6,258,097	07-10-2001	KEVIN COOK	
	CW	US-6,283,966	09-04-2001	RODNEY L. HOUFBURG	
	CX	US-6,287,313	09-11-2001	RICK SASSO	
	CY	US-6,312,432	11-06-2001	JOHN W. LEPPMEIER	
	CZ	US-6,342,057	01-29-2002	MICHAEL BRACE	
	DA	US-6,354,176	03-12-2002	WILLIAM F. NORDLIN	
	DB	US-6,371,959	04-16-2002	MICHAEL E. TRICE	
	DC	US-6,371,968	04-16-2002	TAKAHIRO KOGASAKA	
	DD	US-6,418,821	07-16-2002	MASAHICO YAMAKAWA	
	DE	US-6,461,330	10-08-2002	KUNIHICO MIYAGI	
	DF	US-6,520,907	02-18-2003	KEVIN T. FOLEY	
	DG	US-6,530,926	03-11-2003	THOMAS W. DAVISON	
	DH	US-6,540,756	04-01-2003	THOMAS F. VAUGHAN	
CW	DI	US-D466,766	12-10-2002	GARRY MARTY	

Examiner Signature	<i>Cary E O'Connor</i>	Date Considered	9/28/04
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Sheet	3	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	101896-246 (DEP-5176)
<i>CEO</i>	DJ	US-D436,513	01-23-2001	MASAHIKO YAMAKAWA	
<i>CEO</i>	DK	US-D433,296	11-07-2000	MASAHIKO YAMAKAWA	
<i>CEO</i>	DL	US-D438,074	02-27-2001	DONALD E. MARR	
<i>CEO</i>	DM	US-D361,381	08-15-1995	TIBOR KOROS	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	† <sup>2</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
<i>CEO</i>	DN	WO 02/060330 A1	08-08-2002	RITLAND		
<i>CEO</i>	DO	WO 00/18306 A1	04-06-2000	RITLAND		

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<i>CEO</i>	DP	WOLFHARD CASPAR, <i>Technique of Microsurgery, in</i> MICROSURGERY OF THE LUMBAR SPINE: PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES IN SPINE SURGERY 105-122 (Aspen Publications, 1990)	
<i>CEO</i>	DQ	KAMBIN, PARVIZ, "Arthroscopic Microdiscectomy: Minimal Intervention in Spinal Surgery", National Library of Medicine, 1991 p 67-100, Urban & Schwarzenberg	
<i>CEO</i>	DR	SCHAFFER, JONATHAN et al., "Percutaneous Posterolateral Lumbar Discectomy and decompression with a 6.9 Millimeter Cannula", The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, 1991, pp 822-831	
<i>CEO</i>	DS	SAVITZ, MARTIN, "Same-Day Microsurgical Arthroscopic Latera-Approach Laser-Assisted (SMALL) Fluoroscopic Discectomy", Journal of Neurosurgery; June 1994, pp 1039-1045	
<i>CEO</i>	DT	KAMBIN, PARVIZ, "Percutaneous Posterolateral Discectomy", Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research, Section II, pp 145-154 119	
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<i>CEO</i>	DV	HILTON, DONALD et al., "Medtronic Sofamor Danek METRX Microdiscectomy Surgical Technique Brochure", 2001	

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